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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF BANKING

PA DEPT OF BANKING

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF BANKING, BUREAU OF COMPLIANCE AND LICENSING

Docket No. 12 0024 (ENF-CO)

MICHAEL'S AUTO SALES, INC.

v.

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ORDER

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the Department of Banking ("Department"), Bureau of Compliance and Licensing ("Bureau"), has reviewed the business practices of Michael's Auto Sales, Inc. ("Michael's Auto Sales"), and its officers, employees and directors. Based on the results of its review, the Bureau concludes that Michael's Auto Sales operated in violation of 69 P.S. § 601 et seq., the Motor Vehicle Sales Finance Act. The parties to the above-captioned matter, in lieu of litigation, hereby stipulate that the following statements are true and correct in the settlement of the above-captioned matter and, intending to be legally bound, hereby agree to the terms of this Consent Agreement and Order ("Order").

BACKGROUND

- 1. The Department is the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's administrative agency authorized and empowered to administer and enforce the Motor Vehicle Sales Finance Act.
- The Bureau is primarily responsible for administering and enforcing the MVSFA for the Department.
- Michael's Auto Sales is a Pennsylvania Business Corporation located at 2239 E.
 Roy Furman Highway. Carmichaels, Pennsylvania 15320.

Unlicensed Period - 2010

- 4. The MVSFA requires anyone engaging in the business of an installment seller of motor vehicles under installment sales contracts to be licensed by the Department. 69 P.S. § 604.
- 5. The Department licensed Michael's Auto Sales as an Installment Seller, license no. 11744 through September 30, 2010.
- 6. The MVSFA requires installment sellers to submit a yearly renewal license application to the Department at least fifteen (15) days prior to October 1 of each year. 69 P.S. § 605.
- 7. Michael's Auto Sales failed to timely submit a license renewal application for license no. 11744 and the Department cancelled license no. 11744 on October 1, 2010. 69 P.S. § 605, 69 P.S. § 607D.
- 8. Because the Department cancelled license no. 11744, the MVSFA prohibited Michael's Auto Sales from engaging in the "business of an installment seller of motor vehicles under installment sales contracts" without first obtaining an installment seller license from the Department. 69 P.S. § 604(1).
- In November 2010, Michael's Auto Sales submitted a new application ("New Application") for an installment seller license.
- 10. Upon receiving and reviewing Michael's Auto Sales' New Application, the Department granted Michael's Auto Sales a new installment seller license, license no. 32941, on November 12, 2010.
- 11. Michael's Auto Sales entered into forty-six (46) installment contracts while unlicensed from October 2, 2010 through November 12, 2010.

12. Michael's Auto Sales was not licensed to enter into installment contracts when it entered into the forty-six (46) installment contracts between October 1, 2010 and November 12, 2010.

Unlicensed Period - 2011

- 13. The Department licensed Michael's Auto Sales as an Installment Seller, license no. 32941 from November 12, 2010 through September 30, 2011.
- 14. Michael's Auto Sales failed to timely submit a license renewal application for license no. 32941 and the Department cancelled license no. 32941 on October 1, 2011. 69 P.S. § 605, 69 P.S. § 607D.
- 15. Because the Department cancelled license no. 32941, the MVSFA prohibited Michael's Auto Sales from engaging in the "business of an installment seller of motor vehicles under installment sales contracts" without first obtaining an installment seller license from the Department. 69 P.S. § 604(1).
- 16. In October 2011, Michael's Auto Sales submitted a new application ("New Application") for an installment seller license.
- 17. Upon receiving and reviewing Michael's Auto Sales' New Application, the Department granted Michael's Auto Sales a new installment seller license, license no. 35933, on October 13, 2011.
- 18. Michael's Auto Sales entered into eleven (11) installment contracts while unlicensed from October 1, 2011 through October 13, 2011.
- 19. Michael's Auto Sales was not licensed to enter into installment contracts when it entered into the eleven (11) installment contracts between October 1, 2011 and October 13, 2011.

Authority of the Department

- 20. The MVSFA grants the Department the authority to issue orders as may be necessary for the enforcement of the MVSFA. 69 P.S. § 637.1.
- 21. Section 610(A)(2) of the MVSFA states that the Department may revoke or suspend any license where "[t]he licensee has violated any provision of this act." 69 P.S. § 610(A)(2).
- 22. Section 637(D) of the MVSFA provides that "[a]ny person required to be licensed under this act that violates this act or directs a violation or who engages in any activity for which a license could be suspended or revoked under section 10 shall be subject to a civil penalty levied by the department of not more than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for each offense." 69 P.S. § 637(D).

VIOLATION

23. Michael's Auto Sales is in violation of Section 604(1) of the MVSFA by engaging in the business of an installment seller while unlicensed. 69 P.S. § 604(1).

RELIEF

24. Fine. Michael's Auto Sales agrees to pay a fine of five thousand six hundred dollars (\$5,600) which shall be due and payable to the Department within thirty (30) days of the Effective Date of this Order as defined in paragraph 32. The fine payment shall be remitted by certified check or money order made payable to the "Department of Banking" and sent to the attention of Bureau of Compliance and Licensing, 17 N. 2nd Street, Suite 1300, Harrisburg, PA 17101.

25. <u>Corrective Measures</u>. Upon the Effective Date of the Order, Michael's Auto Sales shall not engage in the business of installment sales if at any time it should become unlicensed.

FURTHER PROVISIONS

- 26. <u>Consent.</u> Michael's Auto Sales hereby knowingly, willingly, voluntarily and irrevocably consents to the entry of this Order pursuant to the Bureau's order authority under the MVSFA and agrees that it understands all of the terms and conditions contained herein. Michael's Auto Sales, by voluntarily entering into this Order, waives any right to a hearing or appeal concerning the terms, conditions and/or penalties set forth in this Order.
- 27. <u>Publication and Release</u>. Michael's Auto Sales consents to the publication and release of this Order.
- 28. <u>Consumer Rights</u>. This Order shall not limit or impair a consumer's rights under the MVSFA. 69 P.S. § 635.
- 29. <u>Entire Agreement</u>. This Order contains the whole agreement between the parties. There are no other terms, obligations, covenants, representations, statements, conditions, or otherwise, of any kind whatsoever concerning this Order. This Order may be amended in writing by mutual agreement by the Bureau and Michael's Auto Sales.
- 30. <u>Binding Nature</u>. The Department, Michael's Auto Sales, and all officers, owners, directors, employees, heirs and assigns of Michael's Auto Sales intend to be and are legally bound by the terms of this Order.
- 31. <u>Counsel</u>. This Order is entered into by the parties upon full opportunity for legal advice from legal counsel.

32. <u>Effectiveness</u>. Michael's Auto Sales hereby stipulates and agrees that the Order shall become effective on the date that the Bureau executes the Order (the "Effective Date").

33. Other Enforcement Action.

- a. The Department reserves all of its rights, duties, and authority to enforce all statutes, rules and regulations under its jurisdiction against Michael's Auto Sales in the future regarding all matters not resolved by this Order.
- b. Michael's Auto Sales acknowledges and agrees that this Order is only binding upon the Department and not any other local, state or federal agency, department or office regarding matters within this Order.
- 34. <u>Authorization</u>. The parties below are authorized to execute this Order and legally bind their respective parties.
- 35. <u>Counterparts</u>. This Order may be executed in separate counterparts, by facsimile, and by PDF.
- 36. <u>Titles</u>. The titles used to identify the paragraphs of this document are for the convenience of reference only and do not control the interpretation of this document.

WHEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, including the recital paragraphs, the Department and Michael's Auto Sales, Inc. intending to be legally bound do hereby execute this Consent Agreement and Order.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF BANKING BUREAU OF COMPLIANCE AND LICENSING

John Talalai, Administrator
John Valalai, Administrator Bureau of Compliance and Licensing
Department of Banking

Date: 2-27-2012

FOR MICHAEL'S AUTO SALES

(Print Officer Name)

(Officer Signature)

(Title)

Date: 2-22-12